

## **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 3, 2017 **Contact:** Captain Larry Kurtz OC Fire Authority PIO (714) 357-7782 or larrykurtz@ocfa.org

## Forest Service to Begin Dam Removal

**San Diego, CA (March 6, 2017)** – In coordination with the United States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, the Cleveland National Forest will be conducting dam removal operations in Trabuco, Holy Jim, and Silverado Canyons beginning March 20, 2017 until April 30, 2017. Two emergency closure orders will be implemented during operational periods which are expected to last two to three days per area.

Proposed activities will occur along stream segments of the above listed canyons and will include 10 manmade dams. The emergency closure will cover Trabuco Canyon, Holy Jim Canyon, Holy Jim Trail, and the West Horsethief Trailhead, as well as portions of Maple Springs Road in Silverado Canyon, and all of the Silverado Trail. During the operational periods, going into or being upon National Forest System lands, roads, or trails within the Holy Jim or Maple Springs Dam Removal Closure Area is prohibited.

The Forest Service is working to ensure special protection measures are taken for threatened and endangered species by enhancing aquatic organism passage and promoting species recovery. Removing manmade dams in these creeks will create a suitable habitat for potential re-establishment of extirpated species, including the southern steelhead trout. Additionally, it will eliminate public safety hazards and restore the natural stream process.

For more information, or for detailed maps, please contact the Trabuco Ranger District at (951) 736-1811 or reference the Cleveland National Forest Alerts and Notices page.

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The OCFA is a joint powers authority that serves more than 1.8 million residents in 23 cities and the unincorporated areas of the county.

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